

§ 821.55

a centralized point for each manufacturer or distributor within the United States.

[58 FR 43447, Aug. 16, 1993, as amended at 65 FR 43690, July 14, 2000]

§ 821.55 Confidentiality.

(a) Records and other information submitted to FDA under this part shall be protected from public disclosure to the extent permitted under part 20 of this chapter, and in accordance with § 20.63 of this chapter, information contained in such records that would identify patient or research subjects shall not be available for public disclosure except as provided in those parts.

(b) Patient names or other identifiers may be disclosed to a manufacturer or other person subject to this part or to a physician when the health or safety of the patient requires that such persons have access to the information. Such notification will be pursuant to agreement that the record or information will not be further disclosed except as the health aspects of the patient requires. Such notification does not constitute public disclosure and will not trigger the availability of the same information to the public generally.

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 67 FR 5952, Feb. 8, 2002, § 821.55 was amended by redesignating paragraphs (a) and (b) as paragraphs (b) and (c), respectively, and by adding a new paragraph (a), effective May 9, 2002. For the convenience of the user, the added text is set forth as follows:

§ 821.55 Confidentiality.

(a) Any patient receiving a device subject to tracking requirements under this part may refuse to release, or refuse permission to release, the patient's name, address, telephone number, and social security number, or other identifying information for the purpose of tracking.

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§ 821.60 Retention of records.

Persons required to maintain records under this part shall maintain such records for the useful life of each tracked device they manufacture or distribute. The useful life of a device is the time a device is in use or in distribution for use. For example, a record may be retired if the person maintain-

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ing the record becomes aware of the fact that the device is no longer in use, has been explanted, returned to the manufacturer, or the patient has died.

PART 860—MEDICAL DEVICE CLASSIFICATION PROCEDURES

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AUTHORITY: 21 U.S.C. 360c, 360d, 360e, 360i, 360j, 371, 374.

SOURCE: 43 FR 32993, July 28, 1978, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—General

§ 860.1 Scope.

(a) This part implements sections 513, 514(b), 515(b), and 520(l) of the act with respect to the classification and reclassification of devices intended for human use.

(b) This part prescribes the criteria and procedures to be used by classification panels in making their recommendations and by the Commissioner in making the Commissioner's

determinations regarding the class of regulatory control (class I, class II, or class III) appropriate for particular devices. Supplementing the general Food and Drug Administration procedures governing advisory committees (part 14 of this chapter), this part also provides procedures for manufacturers, importers, and other interested persons to participate in proceedings to classify and reclassify devices. This part also describes the kind of data required for determination of the safety and effectiveness of a device, and the circumstances under which information submitted to classification panels or to the Commissioner in connection with classification and reclassification proceedings will be available to the public.

§ 860.3 Definitions.

For the purposes of this part:

(a) *Act* means the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.

(b) *Commissioner* means the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Food and Drug Administration, United States Department of Health and Human Services, or the Commissioner's designee.

(c) *Class* means one of the three categories of regulatory control for medical devices, defined below:

(1) *Class I* means the class of devices that are subject to only the general controls authorized by or under sections 501 (adulteration), 502 (misbranding), 510 (registration), 516 (banned devices), 518 (notification and other remedies), 519 (records and reports), and 520 (general provisions) of the act. A device is in class I if (i) general controls are sufficient to provide reasonable assurance of the safety and effectiveness of the device, or (ii) there is insufficient information from which to determine that general controls are sufficient to provide reasonable assurance of the safety and effectiveness of the device or to establish special controls to provide such assurance, but the device is not life-supporting or life-sustaining or for a use which is of substantial importance in preventing impairment of human health, and which does not present a potential unreasonable risk of illness or injury.

(2) *Class II* means the class of devices that is or eventually will be subject to

special controls. A device is in class II if general controls alone are insufficient to provide reasonable assurance of its safety and effectiveness and there is sufficient information to establish special controls, including the promulgation of performance standards, postmarket surveillance, patient registries, development and dissemination of guidance documents (including guidance on the submission of clinical data in premarket notification submissions in accordance with section 510(k) of the act), recommendations, and other appropriate actions as the Commissioner deems necessary to provide such assurance. For a device that is purported or represented to be for use in supporting or sustaining human life, the Commissioner shall examine and identify the special controls, if any, that are necessary to provide adequate assurance of safety and effectiveness and describe how such controls provide such assurance.

(3) *Class III* means the class of devices for which premarket approval is or will be required in accordance with section 515 of the act. A device is in class III if insufficient information exists to determine that general controls are sufficient to provide reasonable assurance of its safety and effectiveness or that application of special controls described in paragraph (c)(2) of this section would provide such assurance and if, in addition, the device is life-supporting or life-sustaining, or for a use which is of substantial importance in preventing impairment of human health, or if the device presents a potential unreasonable risk of illness or injury.

(d) *Implant* means a device that is placed into a surgically or naturally formed cavity of the human body. A device is regarded as an implant for the purpose of this part only if it is intended to remain implanted continuously for a period of 30 days or more, unless the Commissioner determines otherwise in order to protect human health.

(e) *Life-supporting or life-sustaining device* means a device that is essential to, or that yields information that is essential to, the restoration or continuation of a bodily function important to the continuation of human life.